

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) An animal growth promoting composition, **characterised** in being a liquid solution comprising 1.1 to 5 % by weight of a sorbic acid or a sorbate calculated as sorbic acid, 45 to 93.9 % by weight of formic acid and 5 to 50 % by weight of propionic acid.
2. (original) A composition as defined in claim 1, **characterised** in that the sorbate is potassium sorbate.
3. (currently amended) A composition as defined in claim 1 [[or 2]], **characterised** in that the formic acid has a concentration of at least 70 % by weight.
4. (currently amended) A composition as defined in ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, **characterised** in that the formic acid is partly neutralised with ammonia.
5. (currently amended) A composition as defined in ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, **characterised** in that the composition additionally contains water.
6. (currently amended) A composition as defined in any of claims 1 to 5 claim 1, **characterised** in that the composition comprises 2 to 4 % by weight of sorbic acid or a sorbate calculated as sorbic acid, 70 to 90 % by weight of partly neutralised formic acid and 8 to 20 % by weight of propionic acid and 0 to 20 % by weight of water.

7. (original) A method for preparing an animal growth promoting composition, **characterised** in that sorbic acid or a sorbate is first dissolved in propionic acid, the solution being subsequently mixed into formic acid in order to form solution ready for use.

8. (original) A method as defined in claim 7, **characterised** in that the sorbate is potassium sorbate.

9. (original) A method as defined in claim 7, **characterised** in that the formic acid has a concentration of at least 70 % by weight.

10. (original) A method as defined in claim 7, **characterised** in that the formic acid is partly neutralised with ammonia.

11. (currently amended) A method as defined in ~~any of claims 7 to 10~~ claim 7, **characterised** in that the solution ready for use comprises 2 to 5 % by weight of sorbic acid or a sorbate calculated as sorbic acid, 45 to 90 % by weight of formic acid and 8 to 50 % by weight of propionic acid.

12. (original) A method as defined in claim 11, **characterised** in that the solution ready for use additionally contains water.

13. (original) Use of a composition defined in claim 1 as a growth promoter for slaughter animals.

14. (original) Use of a composition defined in claim 1 as a growth promoter, **characterised** in that the growth

promoter is administered to animals in connection with feeding.

15. (original) Use of a composition defined in claim 1 as a growth promoter, **characterised** in that the growth promoter is added to animal feed in liquid form or absorbed into a solid carrier.

16. (original) Use of a composition defined in claim 15 as a growth promoter, **characterised** in that the animal feed is selected among organic products, such as feed raw materials, feed preparations, corn, vegetable and animal protein feed.